

THE BAPTIST Record

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Baptist released from Haiti jail

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (BP) — A Haiti judge freed one of two remaining Baptist volunteers on March 8, but kept the group's leader in jail pending further investigation. Judge Bernard Saint-Vil allowed Charisa Coulter to be released, more than five weeks after she and nine others were arrested on Jan. 29 for trying to take 33 children out of the earthquake-ravaged country to a makeshift orphanage in the Dominican Republic. They allegedly did not have the proper paperwork. Eight others in the group were released earlier. The group's leader, Laura Silsby, remains in jail in Haiti.

Perf. Arts Fest draws over 600 people

By William H. Perkins Jr.
Editor

More than 600 people from several denominations and states attended the 2010 Christian Performing Arts Festival (CPAF) on February 26-27 at Country Woods Church, Byram.

"We had 549 attendees, 30 instructors, and a staff of 30 to help manage the festival," said Ken Hall, festival coordinator and student ministry consultant in the Discipleship and Family Ministry Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. "Although attendance was down by about 50 people compared to the 2009 CPAF — and I think that had a lot to do with the continuing effects of the poor economy — there were a lot of good people in attendance and a lot of good sessions to attend."

"From the feedback we've received, I believe overall it was one of the best festivals we've had so far."

The festival featured over 125 sessions under the general headings of:

- Drama.
- Puppetry.
- Clowning.
- Media.
- Missions.
- Church Recreation.
- Student Ministry

Featured guest was John Cohen, an international video production and film specialist who has worked with famed special effects wizard Stan Winston on such films as *Edward Scissorhands* and *Predator II*. He developed the *Virtuous Reality* puppet ministry and is director of Creative Outreach Ministries in Lancaster, Ohio.



THE RIGHT WAY — Martha Cannon (right), puppetry coordinator for the 2010 Christian Performing Arts Festival and a member of Calvary Church, Batesville, leads a class session February 27 at the festival on basic puppet manipulation and the effective presentation of puppets in ministry settings. The festival was held February 26-27 at Country Woods Church, Byram. (Photo by William H. Perkins Jr.)

Allison Powell, children's choir coordinator at First Church, Houston, has led a group from her church to attend the festival for the last five years. She brought 22 youth to the 2010 festival. "Creative ministry enhances worship," she pointed out.

"Not only can leaders find training, the youth can network with youth from other churches and see how creative ministries are done by other churches," said Powell, who is also director of Katangelo, the creative arts ministry at First Church, Houston.

"It's a good deal where the money is concerned, too. Over two days, there are a lot of classes and a lot of great networking," she added.

Hall offered a word of thanks to the festival host, Country Woods Church, and the church staff that worked over the weekend to ensure the success of the festival. "We couldn't have done it without them — especially the maintenance staff and (worship pastor) Jim Farrish."

The annual Christian Performing Arts Festival is supported by gifts to the Mississippi Cooperative Program and registration fees. For more information on the festival, contact Hall at P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone: (601) 292-3286 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651, ext. 286. E-mail: khall@mbcb.org. Web site: www.mbc.org.



PERFORMING ARTS GEAR — Ashley Kimble (left) of Sunrise Church near Philadelphia checks out the latest gear at the Out of the Box Ministry booth at the 2010 Christian Performing Arts Festival on February 27 at Country Woods Church, Byram. Ronald Geising of Seabrook, Texas, who was manning the booth, looks on. (Photo by William H. Perkins Jr.)



THROUGH THE LOOP — Participants in the 2010 Christian Performing Arts Festival on February 26-27 at Country Woods Church, Byram, test their coordination skills during a class session in the recreation block of the festival. The game is meant to show participants how to work together to accomplish a goal, in this case to move the hoop through a circle of people without losing their grip on their teammates. (Photo by William H. Perkins Jr.)

Southern Baptists responding to needs in Chile

SANTIAGO, Chile (BP and local reports) — Despite logistical difficulties, Southern Baptist workers are responding to help those suffering from an 8.8-magnitude earthquake that rocked central Chile early on Feb. 27.

With highways cracked, bridges collapsed, and the international airport closed, travel to and through Chile is greatly limited — but missionaries from the International Mission Board (IMB) Mapuche indigenous team, which ministers to the Mapuche people in South America, began moving out on March 2 from Temuco to assess needs in the worst-hit areas.

Temuco is about 130 miles south of quake-ravaged Concepción, Chile's second largest city.

The missionaries — Trent Tomlinson of Alabama, David Hinds of Oklahoma, and Anders Snyder of Colorado — are carrying water and first-aid supplies for distribution. Besides providing some initial relief, they also will assess damages and share their findings with Southern Baptist leaders.

Meanwhile, a second assessment team is struggling to travel into Chile from the United States. This group — Scott Brawner of IMB, Jim Howard from Texas, and Mike Sanders from South Carolina — will be doing assessment as part of joint Southern Baptist relief efforts in Chile.

After they couldn't access the international airport in Chile's capital of Santiago, the team arrived in Argentina and made the trip by bus over the Andes Mountains, reaching Santiago on the afternoon of March 3. They

will be joining IMB missionaries in Chile to make the trip south to the hardest-hit areas, including Concepción. There, they will assess the situation and determine how Southern Baptists can best help.

After they arrive in the south, they will join Chilean Baptist partners already surveying the most devastated areas.

In Santiago, IMB leaders are defining strategy and supply needs for teams that will be traveling south to the most severely affected parts of the quake zone. IMB missionary strategist Charles Clark of North Carolina met with Chilean Baptist Convention leaders and surveyed some of the most heavily damaged areas of Santiago. Clark serves as strategy

leader for the part of South America that includes Chile.

The Chilean convention, which already has personnel traveling south on a "scouting report," welcomed assistance from Southern Baptists and will join forces with the IMB and Baptist Global Response, a Southern Baptist partner in the relief efforts. IMB missionaries in Santiago will work in partnership with local churches to meet needs of some of the people living in tents in the capital city, while two leaders of the Chilean convention will



ASSESSING DAMAGE, PRAYING WITH SURVIVORS — While assessing human needs after the Feb. 27 earthquake in Santiago, Chile, International Mission Board (IMB) missionary strategist Charles Clark of North Carolina talks with a displaced family living in a tent next to their condemned apartment building. IMB missionaries in Santiago are working in partnership with local churches to meet needs of people living in tents in the capital city. (BP photo)

join the assessment teams as they travel south.

In other developments, IMB missionary Alfredo Valencia, who lives in Santiago, already has left for the coastal town of Lillo, which was hard hit by the tsunami following the Feb. 27 earthquake. Valencia, who is from Washington, is leading a team of Chilean Baptists assessing damages and is taking food and water to help meet immediate needs.

The Mississippi Baptist Disaster Relief Task Force is administered by the Men's Ministry Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board in Jackson. Don Gann, consultant in the Men's Ministry Department, said the task force is awaiting the findings of the assessment teams in Chile to coordinate Mississippi Baptist disaster relief efforts.

The task force this week is coordinating the statewide collection of Buckets of Hope

for Haiti, a Southern Baptist program aimed at providing critical supplies to families affected by the recent Haiti earthquake. The Buckets of Hope collected in Mississippi will be delivered to Central Hills Retreat near Kosciusko on March 11-12 for final packaging and shipping.

The Mississippi Baptist Disaster Relief Task Force is supported by gifts to the Mississippi Cooperative Program, the Margaret Lackey State Missions Offering, and donations.

Donations for Chile may be directed to the Disaster Response Fund at imb.org. One hundred percent of each donation goes to meet human needs. Updated prayer requests can be viewed at imb.org/pray. Information also will be updated through Twitter at #QuakeResponse. Mississippi-specific information will be distributed through www.mbc.org, when available.

Looking back

10 years ago

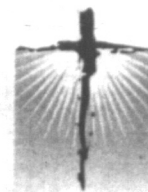
Bob Reccord, president of the North American Mission Board, states that as of Dec. 31, 1999, the Bold Mission Thrust goal of having 5,000 missionaries on the field by the year 2000 had been met, with 5,025 missionaries serving.

20 years ago

The Directors of Missions (DOM) Fellowship, which meets four times a year, elects Calhoun Association DOM Wayne Gullet as president; Kenneth Rhodes, DOM of Pearl River Association as secretary-treasurer; and Marvin Cox, DOM of Union County Association as vice president.

50 years ago

Heart disease continues to be the number one killer of Southern Baptist preachers, according to the Southern Baptist Relief and Annuity Board.



MISSISSIPPI
BAPTISTS

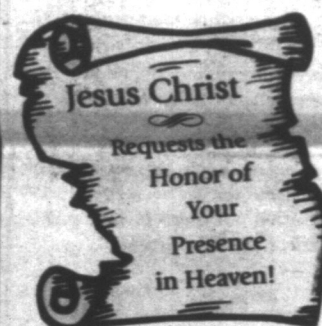
THE SECOND FRONT PAGE

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**YOU CAN RESPOND
RIGHT NOW!**

Simply share the following prayer with God in your own words:

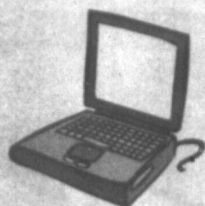
1. Lord, I admit that I need you. (I have sinned.)
2. I want forgiveness for my sins and freedom from eternal death. (I repent.)
3. I believe Jesus died and rose from the grave to forgive my sins and to restore my relationship with you. (I believe in Jesus.)
4. By faith, I invite Jesus Christ into my life. From this time on, I want to live in a loving relationship with Him. (I receive Christ as my Savior and Lord.)

"But as many as received him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in his name." (John 1:12)

If you make a decision for Jesus Christ today, contact a local Baptist church for spiritual guidance.

Bible course OK'd

NASHVILLE (BP) — The Tennessee Board of Education in late January approved guidelines on how to teach the Bible in public high schools, enabling students to "acquire an understanding and appreciation of the Bible's major ideas, historical/geographical contexts and literary forms." The move in late January came in response to legislation passed in 2008 supporting the adoption of state curriculum standards for teaching about the Bible at the high school level. Students who choose the elective class will be allowed to use the biblical translation of their choice as a text, and they will study the Bible in its historical, sociological, and cultural contexts as well as its impact on later cultures, societies, and religions. Teachers, the guidelines say, must be "cognizant of student rights to their personal views," and all lessons should be planned "with attention to helping students develop a greater sense of their civic roles as responsible citizens." Students will analyze biblical narratives; read biblical poetry; identify diverse interpretations of biblical texts; describe ways the Bible has impacted literature, art, music, and thought; and demonstrate knowledge of historical, geographical, social, and cultural contexts of biblical literature in the ancient world. They also could be asked, according to the guidelines, to discuss Abraham Lincoln's use of the Bible or Martin Luther King's use of biblical imagery. "We think we've gotten this curriculum written to meet all guidelines that would uphold court challenges," Brenda Ables, a social studies specialist, told The Tennesseean newspaper in Nashville. "Those schools who had their own curriculum and were already teaching it will continue to do so until somebody tells them they can't."



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The grandchildren they never knew

The letter arrived shortly after the Memorial to the Missing was dedicated. A couple from out of state was touring downtown Jackson on a warm Saturday afternoon when they came upon the Memorial on the grounds of the Baptist Building.

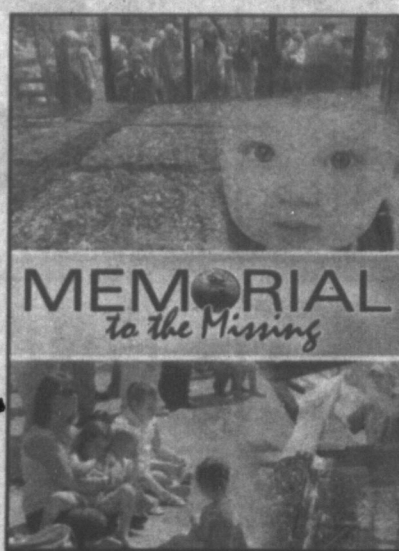
They were moved to tears by what they saw, because they had just learned from their daughter that she had endured an abortion as a teenager many years before. Weary of the constant regret, recurring nightmares, and stress of secret sin, she finally confessed to her parents. When their other daughter later learned of her sister's confession, she lowered her head and began to weep. Her parents knew, even before she could find the words to tell them, that she too had undergone an abortion years ago.

The letter went on to describe the devastation such news had wrought on the daughters' parents and their family, and how deeply all of them yearned to hold the missing babies in their arms. The parents wrote that as they stood in front of the Memorial on that warm Saturday afternoon, the sad weight of the world was upon their shoulders. They dug into their pockets and found some pennies which they left there to memorialize the grandchildren they never knew.

Stories like that are often told around the Memorial to the Missing. Like the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C., there is something strongly cathartic about the Memorial to the Missing. For the people who have been swept up in the tragedy of legalized abortion — not only mothers and fathers but grandparents and other loved ones — abortion inarguably claims more than one life, only in different ways.

Mississippi Baptists decided first to build the Memorial to the Missing, a massive see-through glass container, and then to fill it with 50 million pennies to represent the 50 million babies who are not with us today because they were aborted.

The Memorial to the Missing is about those babies, 50 million babies, who will never rest in the arms of loving grandparents, who will never know life as do the rest of us. It's about 50 million Americans who are not here, 34 years after the heinous U.S.



Supreme Court decision in 1973 that legalized all forms of abortion nationwide throughout all nine months of pregnancy. Thus have 50 million babies — some as small as a safety pin and others as large as a fully-formed child just seconds from birth — suffered lingering and painful deaths at the hands of the abortionists.

Mississippi Baptists have chosen through the Memorial to the Missing to remind the nation and the world that 50 million lives have been lost to abortion in this country during the past 38 years. The Memorial is not a statement on the often-bitter politics that surround the abortion issue, or the people who have been involved in abortions. It's about the babies who are not here. That's all.

Now, years after the huge container has been filled to the brim with pennies, we face another infanticide explosion in the form of the proposed health care reform bill now before the U.S. House of Representatives.

As the article below details, provisions in the bill will allow taxpayer funding of abortion to the tune of hundreds of millions of dollars.

That's on top of the hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars already allotted to groups like Planned Parenthood, the largest abortion provider in the country, for "family planning services."

"The Senate bill would allow direct federal funding of abortion on demand through Community Health Centers," says Douglas Johnson, National Right to Life's legislative director. The Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention has also sounded the alarm and expressed opposition to the increased funding and availability of abortions provided for in the bill.

Never has a Congress, employed by the People to represent them, tried to so hard to give Americans what they don't want. Americans don't want abortion to be legal, and Americans don't want abortions to be expanded. The Memorial to the Missing proves how deeply Mississippi Baptists feel about this issue.

Mississippi has been described as the most pro-life state in the nation, and Mississippi Baptists have willingly assumed a large role in making that so. Apparently, it's going to take a lot more effort to get through to the tone-deaf politicians on the national level who are pushing this bill.

May our deeds continue to match our words as a lost world watches, and may we never forget those 50 million babies.

Abortion provisions remain in controversial health bill

WASHINGTON (BP) — As Democrats prepare for what likely will be one final push for a health care bill, pro-life groups are targeting several aspects of the proposal, including billions of dollars in new funding for community health centers that the groups say could go to fund abortions.

Funding for the community health centers largely has been overlooked in past months, often overshadowed by debates over whether public and private insurance plans that receive federal money will be allowed to cover abortion.

The controversy over community health centers — and what restrictions they would have — is just as significant, the groups say.

The Senate passed its version of health care on Christmas Eve, but only after adopting a last-hour "manager's amendment" that included, among other things, \$7 billion in additional funding for the nation's 1,200-plus community health centers (CHCs), which provide health care for the uninsured and underserved.

Some of the centers are run by Planned Parenthood, the nation's largest abortion provider and the recipient of hundreds of millions

of tax dollars annually.

President Obama's proposal last month went even further than the Senate bill and provided for \$11 billion in CHC funding. The House bill that passed in November had \$12 billion in CHC funding, but that bill included tough pro-life language championed by Democratic Rep. Bart Stupak of Michigan that prevented CHCs from using tax dollars to cover elective abortions.

The Senate bill had no such language and Obama's proposal mentioned nothing about abortion.

"Two pro-abortion groups, the Reproductive Health Access Project and the Abortion Access Project, are already actively campaigning for Community Health Centers to perform elective abortions," Douglas Johnson, National Right to Life's legislative director, wrote in a Feb. 22 analysis.

"In short, the Senate bill would allow direct federal funding of abortion on demand through Community Health Centers."

Other pro-life groups — including the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, Concerned Women for America, and Americans

United for Life — have expressed similar concerns.

The issue of federal funding of abortion in the health care bill has received little mainstream attention in recent weeks but did make it briefly into the bipartisan health care summit Feb. 25, thanks to House Minority Leader John Boehner of Ohio.

"For 30 years we've had a federal law that says that we're not going to have taxpayer funding of abortions," Boehner said, speaking to President Obama. "We've had this debate in the House; it was a very serious debate. But in the House, the House spoke, and the House upheld the language we've had in law for 30 years — that there will be no taxpayer funding of abortions. This bill that we have before us — and there was no reference to that issue in your outline; Mr. President — begins for the first time in 30 years allowing for the taxpayer funding of abortion."

Obama did not address the abortion issue directly in his response but did claim that it and other charges by Boehner "just aren't true." Minutes later, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi of California called Boehner's charge "not factual."

"The law of the land is there is no public funding of abortion, and there is no public funding of abortion in these bills," Pelosi said.

Boehner is pro-life. Obama and Pelosi are pro-abortion.

Johnson said the Senate's pro-abortion language would face opposition in the House.

"A substantial number of pro-life Democrats in the House, including some lawmakers whose names have not been mentioned on the various published lists, have told their constituents that they are not going to vote for the Senate-passed bill because of the abortion problems," Johnson said.

"For pro-life Democrats, President Obama's proposal only makes matters worse. The only thing that would fix the Senate bill on abortion is permanent, bill-wide language that is functionally identical to the Stupak-Pitts Amendment adopted in the House."

Editor's note: To read National Right to Life's analysis, visit <http://www.nrlc.org/AHC/NRLCmemoCommHealth.pdf> and <http://www.nrlc.org/AHC/HouseLetterOnAbortionProvisions.html>.

What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the

HOUSE TOPS

Matthew 10:27 NAS

March 11, 2010

HouseTops is a Baptist Record supplement produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Communication Services.



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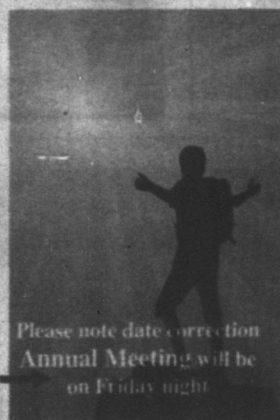
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"Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us." (Hebrews 12:1)

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WNGM ATR: EPA

Clue: T = N

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Luke Two: Seven

YOU TALK BETTER THAN YOU LOOK

Have you ever talked to someone on the phone or listened to someone on the radio that you have never met? You do not know what they actually look like. You have never seen a picture, no one has ever described them to you, and so from their voice you paint a mental picture of what you think they will look like — the shape of their face, the color of their hair, or the lack of hair. You put an image together, and that is what comes to mind when you hear their voice. Maybe later you have an opportunity to see this person or even to meet them. Regardless of what they look like, you might be amazed. It could be that they look a lot like what you thought they would look like. On the other hand, they could be diametrically opposite of what you had in your mind.

I was preaching in one of our churches and met this precious lady before the service began. She told me that she saw me every week in The Baptist Record and that she looked forward to reading my article. I thanked her and we talked about some things related to her life and related to some of the articles that I had written. We went on to the worship service where I was to be the speaker. I preached and after the service, she came up to me, shook my hand, and said, "You talk a lot better than you look!" Somewhat awkwardly, I started to respond and say, "Well, thank you," or "What do you mean?" or "Honestly that is not too much of a compliment." Since she saw my picture every week and had never heard me preach, she drew her opinions of what I must sound like and be like from a black and white photo in the paper each week.

What people think and what they say never ceases to amaze me. It is this thought, *You talk better than you look*, and some others that have been said to me that are just amazing. One lady who I had never seen or met before, said, "Mr., you look good enough to bury!" I have never heard that before and I suppose that means she thought I was dressed okay and that I probably looked

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Directions

Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

like a good corpse. Here are some lessons to be drawn from the comments that were made at church that Sunday.

One important lesson is that what you look like is not necessarily what you are really like. Anytime that we meet someone knowingly or unknowingly, and most of it is probably the unknowing part, we begin to draw assumptions about what we think about this person based on people we have known through the years that look like them. It is crazy, but we actually project on to someone our past understandings and our experiences good or bad that have come from folks they favor.

It is not uncommon to hear someone express strong opinions about a person and maybe even dislike because they favor someone else. If we actually get to know them, we may discover that we are right — or sadly, we may discover that we are totally wrong. I know it is not easy but it is certainly best and wise to try to avoid evaluating people from just your first and outward impressions.

Another thing that could be learned from this is that what you say can actually shape

what you look like. Through the years, I have known people just as a voice. Maybe they worked at a church or maybe they had business dealings with us, but they were just a voice. When I met them, though they actually did not look like what I thought they would, I saw them in light of the conversations we had, the words they used, and the opinions they had expressed. That can be good or bad but for me, I would have to say, generally speaking, that it is for the good.

Even though you cannot see them, people's words, even their writings, the inflection of their voice, and the kindness with which they phrase things can give you a view of them that a picture or a physical look cannot equal. None of us has ever met or seen Jesus in person, but what a wonderful image we have in our hearts of Him because of the way He treated people, the things He said, and the way He reacted in situations. We know what He was like. So now, for 2000 years, people who are capable of painting or drawing have etched and sketched images of Him, and they have tried to capture some wonderful particular aspect of His life. If we

were capable of drawing, it is possible that every one of us would draw a different view of the Jesus who has touched our heart.

A final thought is that we are best served to see, to hear, and to sense a person's total presentation before we declare what they are like. The more I thought about it maybe that is what that sweet lady was doing when she said, "You talk better than you look!" After a while, I began to think to myself, "Well, that is a wonderful thing, for if my image in The Baptist Record is better than my preaching and my talking, I'm in a heap of trouble," for many of you who read this and have never heard me speak you could probably say, "Well, I sure hope so." I hope that for those of you who have heard me preach on occasion, that you can nod your head and say, "Yeah, I think he talks better than he looks!"

At the close of the Sermon on the Mount in the closing verses of Matthew's Gospel in chapter seven, the crowds began to go away impressed that Jesus had spoken "with authority." They recognized that His words — His message — was different from the religious leaders that they had been hearing. Maybe, though I am not sure, some sweet lady in the crowd might have come up to Him and said, "You talk better than you look!"

The author can be contacted at jfuftral@mbcb.org.

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MS POSITIONS

FBC, BYHALIA, MS, A SOUTHERN Baptist congregation in the greater Memphis area, is seeking F/T Pastor with seminary degree and 5 yrs. Pastoral experience. Resumes will be accepted thru May 31. Send to FBC Pastor Search Committee, PO Box 246, Byhalia, MS, 38611.

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Cleveland, MS is seeking a part-time Music Director. Deadline for receiving resumes is May 14, 2010. Resumes should be sent to: Search Committee, Calvary Baptist Church, P. O. Box 516, Cleveland, MS 38732

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH IS SEEKING a P/T Music/Youth Minister. Send resumes to Bethel Baptist Church, c/o Bill Finch, 500 S. Main, Water Valley, Ms., 38965-3327 or Email bfinch-eg@gmail.com. Tel. 662-473-3667

EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH IN Greenville, MS is seeking God's man for our full-time Youth Pastor position. We are a contemporary styled Southern Baptist church in the heart of the Delta. Send resumes to Mike Robinson, 3600 Glendale Road, Greenville, MS 38703.

LEMOYNE BLVD. BAPTIST CHURCH, Biloxi, seeking Minister of Music. Traditional and blended services. E-mail resumes to Jan Goss, jgoss59@aol.com.

FBC FULTON, MS IS SEEKING A F/T Youth Minister. Please send resumes to P. O. Box 400, Fulton, Ms, 38843, or fax to 662-862-5793, or E-mail to avaughn74@yahoo.com.

FBC, BOYLE, MS IS SEEKING RESUMES for a Pastor to lead our church according to God's will. Qualifications will be those set forth in the New Testament 1 Timothy 3. Submittal deadline is March 31. Please forward resume to: FBC Boyle c/o PSC, P. O. Box 218, Boyle, MS 38730

Super Summer

Endurance

July 12 - 16, 2010
Mississippi College, Clinton

WHAT IS SUPER SUMMER?

Super Summer is a discipleship/evangelism leadership conference designed to provide qualitative spiritual growth and help develop student leadership in Mississippi churches.

Super Summer is *not* for everyone in your youth group. It is designed for students who personally have a desire to grow spiritually. Students come to Super Summer knowing that they will be challenged not only to grow, but to actively share their faith with others. Church leaders are responsible for sending only students that meet the requirements set forth for participation.

COSTS AND REGISTRATION SCHEDULE

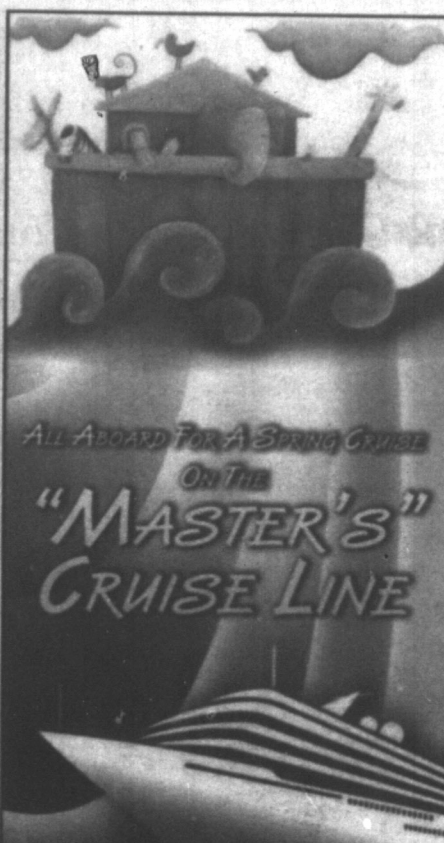
Students and Adult Leaders - \$200 if registered by May 4
\$250 if registered May 5 - June 4
NO REGISTRATIONS OR REFUNDS ACCEPTED AFTER JUNE 4.
DEADLINES STRICTLY ENFORCED!

Registration packets can be downloaded from our Web site:
www.mssupersummer.com

For more info: e-mail René Edwards
redwards@mbcb.org or call 1-800-748-1651, ext. 284

SPEAKER
Bryant Bush

WORSHIP LEADER
Stephen Miller



ALL ABOARD FOR A SPRING CRUISE
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MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST
MINISTRY ASSISTANTS CONFERENCE
APRIL 12 & 13, 2010

IT STARTED WITH A RAINBOW....
A PURPOSE / A PROMISE

WITNESSING



MAY 7-8, 2010
COLONIAL
HEIGHTS BC
RIDGELAND

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Fundamentals of Camera Operation

Participants will walk through the basic camera operations such as framing, functions and camera directions.

How Did They Do That?

(for everyone - bring samples)

Examples will be shown. Share your samples ... bring on DVD format.

How to Get Started on the Web

Internet beginners can see what you need to know about getting online and publishing a church Web page.

Web Site Design Advanced

Participants who have a basic knowledge of Web site design and want to take your church Web page to the next level.

Projection Systems Forum

If you are interested in, familiar with, just bought or looking for ways to use your video projection system, this question and answer seminar is for you.

Creative Production Techniques

Creating spots, outreach videos, devotional thoughts, VBS promotion, budget presentations and others for the local church.

Sound Advice Basic

Participants will receive audio tips and production techniques for the sound operator (house and broadcast).

Sound Advice Advanced

This question and answer format will go a step further in helping both broadcast and house audio operators with practical ideas.

Lighting for Worship

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Preaching Conference

For more information, call Kay McDonnell,
(601) 292-3305 or 1-800-748-1651, ext. 305,
or E-mail kmcdonnell@mbcb.org

"PREACH THE WORD"

FBC, Vicksburg
Monday, April 19

FBC, Kosciusko
Tuesday, April 20

FBC, Philadelphia
Wednesday, April 21

2010 STATE SINGLES RETREAT

Central Hills, Kosciusko May 22-23

Theme: "Living out of your singleness in Christ" Eph. 4:24

Preacher: Keith Lowry, singles consultant, Texas

Concert: "Red Roots", Hurdley, Miss.

BREAK-OUTS:

"A Single God Can Use" - Becky Brown, Richland, recording artist/author

Humor: "Joy is more than a Detergent" - Janie Walters, Madison, renowned humorist

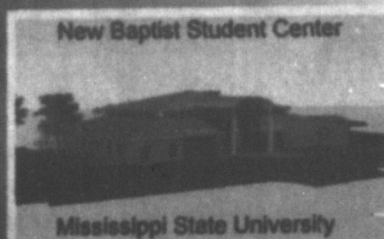
"A New Look at Prayer" - Miss Chocolate, Gwen Williams, Picayune

"Young Single Adult" - Mark Evans, minister to young singles, Broadmoor BC, Madison

For more information: 800.748.1651, ext. 373, or e-mail: gshows@mbcb.org

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Proposed
New BSU Center
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BSU work at MSU had its beginnings in the 1920s. Today hundreds of college students are involved each week. The MSU BSU is reaching students, discipling students and sending students on missions across the campus and around the world.

WILL YOU HELP THIS VISION TO BECOME A REALITY?

"NEW" Pastor Workshop

March 22, 2010 • 9:00 a.m.-12 noon

William Carey University

For pastors who are:

- "NEW" to the pastorate • "NEW" to their church
- Looking for "NEW" ideas

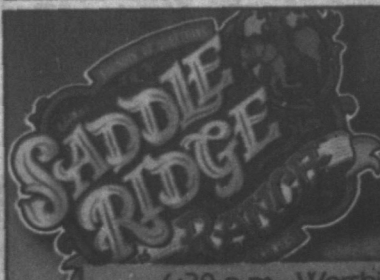


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7-9 p.m. Conferences

CONFERENCES

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- General VBS Training also offered for non-LifeWay users.

*Not all conferences offered at all locations

For more information contact

Angie Boydston at
aboystun@mbcb.org or
Lee Ann Boykin at
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April 13, 2010

Calvary BC, Macon
Siloam BC, Meadville
FBC, Cleveland

April 15, 2010

Gaston BC, Booneville
FBC, Belzoni
Temple West BC, Hattiesburg

April 20

Parkway BC, Kosciusko
FBC, Oxford

We're Roundin' up your
Reservations

MINISTER OF EDUCATION LEADER LAB

Monday, April 19

9 - 11:30 a.m.

Garaywa

Lunch will be provided

SPEAKER: TOPPER REID

Director of Church Development for
Myrick Gurosky and Associates in
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Topper Reid will address two major
areas; "The Church and the Waves of
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In a world that is ever changing it often seems that many of our frustrations come from our own unwillingness to change with the change. The world of the minister of education is constantly facing the need for change yet we are dealing with leaders that just want to keep doing the same thing the way they have always done it. We believe the heartbeat of the M.E. is to have vibrant, growing, reaching Sunday School/Bible Study groups yet we face the challenge of our own frustrations as well as those of the leaders of our churches.



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Church Facilities & Furnishings Workshop

March 16, 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Parkway Baptist Church
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Clinton



For pastors, staff members,
building committees, long-range
planning committees, business
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Muslims slaughter Christians in three Nigerian villages

LAGOS, Nigeria (BP) — Hundreds of Christians were murdered in an overnight massacre by ethnic Fulani Muslims on March 7 in Nigeria's Plateau state.

Rampaging Fulani herds-men used machetes to kill the mostly ethnic Berom victims, including many women and children, in three farming villages near the city of Jos. About 75 houses also were burned.

State Information Commissioner Gregory Yenlong confirmed that about 500 persons were killed in the attacks, which took place mainly in Dogo Nahawa, Zot, and Rastat villages.

"We were woken up by gunshots in the middle of the night, and before we knew what was happening, our houses were torched and they started hacking down people," survivor Musa Gyang told news media sources.

The assailants apparently came on foot from a neighboring state. Security forces reportedly had been alerted of a possible attack on the villages but did not act beforehand.

Some 380 Christians were buried in one mass burial space, a local government official who asked to remain anonymous, told International Christian Concern. The official said police have arrested 93 people and recovered guns, knives, and other weapons from the suspects.

The attack is the latest in several religious clashes in the state in recent months that have claimed lives and property. Plateau state lies in Nigeria's "middle belt" and has dozens of ethnic groups living in near proximity to each other, the Associated Press (AP) reports.

Plateau is a predominantly Christian state in a country almost evenly divided between Muslims in the north and Christians in the south. The area has been the site of intense clashes over land, and Jos has been under a military curfew since more than 300 people — mostly Muslims — were killed

in religious-based violence in January.

Officials speculate the March 7 attack was in reprisal for the January violence, the AP reported.

Bishop Andersen Bok, national coordinator of the Plateau State Elders Christian Fellowship, along with group Secretary General Musa Pam, described the attack as yet another "jihad and provocation on Christians."

"Dogo Nahawa is a Christian community," the Christian leaders said in a statement. "Eyewitnesses say the Hausa Fulani Muslim militants were chanting 'Allah Akbar,' broke into houses, cutting human beings, including children and women with their knives and cutlasses."

At about 1:30 a.m. after the militants besieged Dogo Nahawa, the Christian leaders said they contacted the military, which is in charge of security in the state.

"We were shocked to find out that the soldiers did not react until about 3:30 a.m., after the Muslim attackers had finished their job and left," they stated. "We are tired of these genocides on our Christian brothers and state here that we will not let this go unchallenged."

Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria (PFN) President Ayo Oritsejafor decried the attack on the Christian community as barbaric and urged the federal government to stop the killing of innocent citizens or risk a total breakdown of law and order.

"I have just returned from a trip abroad," Oritsejafor said. "While I was away, I was

inundated with reports of another catastrophe in the Jigawa state capital, where several churches were burnt, and just as I was trying to settle down and collate reports from the field, I am hearing of another on Sunday morning."

Gabriel Osu, the Catholic Archbishop of Lagos, said the Sunday killing in Jos is a major setback for the country's effort to gain the confidence of the international community.

"Do you know that because of things like these, anywhere Nigerians travel to they are subjected to dehumanizing scrutiny?" he said. "Any act of violence at this time is totally condemned, and the government should make haste to fish out all identified perpetrators

of such heinous crimes against God so that we can move forward as a people united under one umbrella."

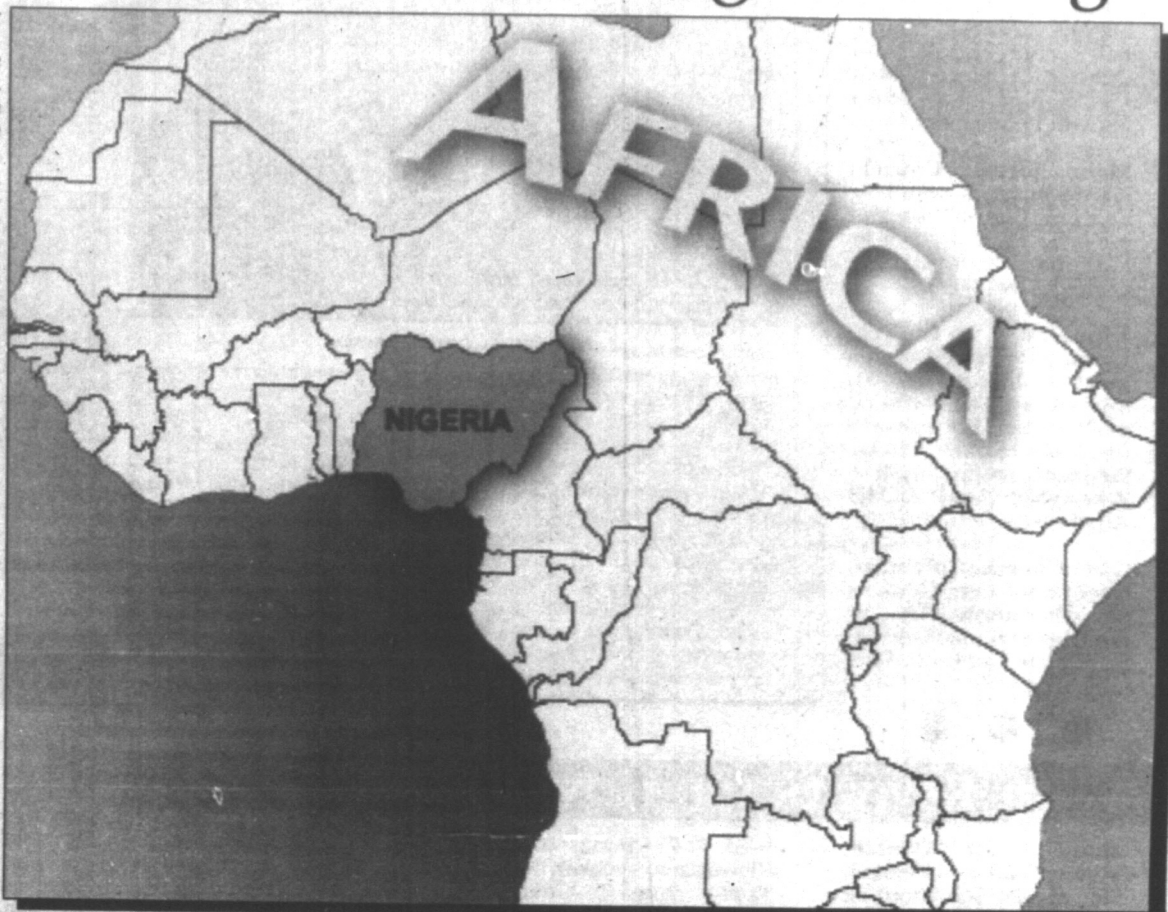
On March 5, Abel Damina, the national youth president of the PFN, expressed concern over cases of clandestine killings of Christians in remote parts of Plateau state by Islamic extremists and called on the federal government to retrieve sophisticated weapons in their possession.

"Even as I speak to you now, I am receiving reports that some clandestine killings are still going on in the remote areas of Plateau State by the fundamentalists," Damina was quoted as saying. "They pounce on Christians and kill them with-

out anybody knowing much of their identity except that they are Christians."

He added that recently he visited the governor in Jos regarding the crisis and secured photos of Christian victims.

"Young men, Christians, were going to their farm to harvest their produce and the fundamentalists pounced on them," Damina said. "They were called infidels. At the last conference, we received reports with photographs of the fundamentalists using AK-47 rifles to destroy our churches. Where did they get the arms from? We have reports of truck loads of arms that had been intercepted, and we did not hear anything about them."



NAMB, IMB searches picking up speed, committee chairmen say

ALPHARETTA, Ga. (BP) — The search for the next North American Mission Board president (NAMB) will accelerate since the Great Commission Resurgence Task Force (GCRTF) issued its preliminary report during the recent Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) Executive Committee meeting in Nashville in February.

"Our team has been working slowly because of the GCR team's study of the Great Commission and Southern Baptist life," said Ted Traylor, pastor of Olive Church in Pensacola, Fla., and chairman of

the NAMB presidential search committee. Traylor also serves on the GCR Task Force, chaired by Ronnie Floyd, pastor of First Church in Springdale, Ar.

"At our next search committee meeting in March, we'll start looking high and low for God's man for NAMB," Traylor said. "It's a key time in the life of the convention — with a new CEO coming in Nashville [at the Executive Committee], a new IMB president, a new NAMB president and a new president of the convention [to be elected in Orlando in June]. If

we can get the right four men lined up, we hope to catch a fresh wind of God."

Meanwhile, the International Mission Board's presidential search committee continues to narrow down its field of candidates to select the organization's 11th president. The committee has requested that Southern Baptists set aside March 13 as a day of prayer and fasting to ask God to direct their path.

Though search committee chairman Jimmy Pritchard preferred not to specify the number of remaining candi-

dates the committee is considering, he said they have come to the "most crucial aspect in our search for the next leader of IMB."

"The choices will be very difficult from this point on," said Pritchard, senior pastor of First Church in Forney, Texas. "As God continues to narrow our focus, we remain dependent upon the leadership of the Holy Spirit and the prayers of God's people in this process."

The committee received recommendations from more than 270 people and compiled a list of 74 possible candidates. The

15-member committee was appointed in September following Jerry Rankin's announcement that he will retire as IMB president, effective July 31.

Rankin and his wife Bobbye, both native Mississippians and graduates of Baptist-affiliated Mississippi College in Clinton, plan to retire to Clinton.

"We're committed to getting it right and getting God's choice man," Pritchard said. "Thank you for your partnership as we embrace these great days of opportunity with the confidence of God's approval and leadership."

Pray this day for...

Prayer Ministry Office • P.O. Box 530 • Jackson, MS 39205-0530 • Phone 601-292-3304 • Mississippi PrayerLine 1-800-787-7729 (PRAY)

"Good and upright is the LORD: therefore he instructs sinners in his ways. He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his way." Psalm 25: 8-9

Pray for: (1) a BSU team from USM as they serve an inner city church plant in Baltimore, Maryland, March 12-18; (3) a group from **Richmond BC, Tupelo**, serving in Toledo, Ohio, as they work in the inner city with a shelter and Baptist Center, March 13-19.

Substance Abuse Prevention (CAC Emphasis)

Pray for those feeling hopelessly enslaved by drug addiction, witchcraft, gambling, crime and other evils to be miraculously changed by God's power.

Pray for: (1) a large team from **Tri-County Baptist Association** in Mexico doing evangelism, medical ministry and construction, March 13-20; (2) a team from **Easthaven BC, Brookhaven**, working in Honduras doing some repairs and construction, March 13-20.

Pray for the "New" Pastor Workshop, William Carey University. Pray for the wisdom of those leading this conference. Pray for the encouragement for these new pastors (P/LD).

Pray for the Church Facilities & Furnishings Workshop, Parkway BC, Clinton (P/LD).

Pray for workers in Chile as they continue to coordinate disaster relief. Pray that the aftershocks will cease.

Pray for: (1) a team from **FBC, Corinth**, doing construction and serving in an orphanage in Ecuador, March 12-20; (2) a team from **Holly BC, Corinth**, is serving in Montana. Pray for them as they participate in ski resort ministry, March 17-22.

Pray for a team of **Mississippi Baptists** on a vision journey to Bali to see how God is working there and how they can lead their Mississippi Baptist churches to be a part.

Pray for: (1) a team led by **North Oxford BC**, as they are working among an unreached people group in Peru, March 12-20; (2) for the ongoing ministry in the earthquake ravaged country of Haiti.

Pray for the Church Library Ministry Retreat, Garaywa Camp & Conference Center, Clinton, March 25-27 (CS).

Pray for: (1) Mississippi Baptists prayerwalking in Turkey, March 11-19; (2) a **FBC, Madison** group traveling to SE Asia, March 12-16 to assist in a community project; (3) a team from **Southwest CC BSU** working with a new church plant in Seattle, March 12-18.

Pray for: (1) Christian Education Clinic, Ridgecrest BC, Madison (D&FM); (2) Disaster Relief Area 8 Training (MM); (3) a team from **Grace Baptist Church, Philadelphia**, as they travel to Honduras to lead in VBS and Bible study, March 13-20.

Pray for missionaries in countries where the only form of travel to reach interior areas is by foot. Pray for their strength and protection.

Pray for God's direction for college students as they seek to know how God would have them spend their lives in service to him.



ANNUAL HISPANIC WOMEN'S RETREAT

Retiro Anual para Mujeres
Conferenciante:
Rm. Dianne Daniels

Tema: Mujer, Cambia Tu Mundo

Cento Dios nos a las mujeres para hacer una diferencia.

Este retiro se celebrara los dias 9 y 10 de abril de 2010 en el campamento de Central Hills Baptist Retreat 8877 Ridge Road 6227, West, MS 39182.

El costo sera de \$30.00. Los esperamos.

To register: Contact Maria Elena Treviño, 207 Apple Street, New Albany, MS 38652 / 662-372-3918 / homerote@iname.com OR Paula Smith, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205 / 601-968-3800, ext. 336 / psmith@mbcb.org

April 9, register 3 p.m. - April 10, 4 p.m.
Central Hills Baptist Retreat
Cost: \$30

THEME:

Woman, Change Your World: How God Uses Women to Make a Difference

SPECIAL GUEST:

MRS. DIANNE DANIELS
Multicultural Consultant with National WMU and Editor of Nuestra Tarea

SPECIAL TRACT:

"JUST FOR TEEN GIRLS"
lead by Erica Hagar and Garaywa Summer Staff

5-1-08

MISS TAYLOR DEWETT

Parents: Ted & Kerri; American Peoples

5-1-08

MISS KAMRYN DEWETT

Parents: Ted & Kerri; American Peoples

5-1-89

MR. BRYAN HOLYFIELD

Parents: Michael & Patricia; European Peoples

5-3-99

MISS ADRIANN S.

Parents: Jerry & Kelly; Restricted

5-5-00

MR. PATRICK N.

Parents: J & J; Restricted

5-15-09

MR. JUDSON N.

Parents: Kieth & Susan; Restricted

5-15-96

MR. PATRICK AUSTIN

Parents: Arnold & Susie; American Peoples

5-16-00

MISS ADDIE GRACE PUTNAM

Parents: Tracy & Genie; European Peoples

5-23-01

MISS ANNA CLAIRE

Parents: Jim & Penni; Last Frontier

Encourage an MK with a birthday card!

5-24-91

MISS LAURA PURL

Parents: John & Amy; European Peoples

5-25-04

MISS SYDNEY HENDERSON

Parents: Brian & Felicia; American Peoples

5-26-06

MISS DARCY D.

Parents: D. & M.; European Peoples

5-27-00

MR. SKYLAR HENDERSON

Parents: Brian & Felicia; American Peoples

05/29/03

MR. CALEB S.

Parents: Spencer & Melanie; Last Frontier

5-31-02

MR. SAMUEL SIMPSON

Parents: Adam & Kristen; European Peoples

FOR SECURITY, cards will be forwarded. Please send all to: Child's name, Parent's name, MBCB wMu MK Birthdays, PO Box 530, Jackson MS 39205.

PLEASE NOTE: Church members may send a package of cards together; cards do not have to be sent individually to the wMu.

Unhindered... to the Ends of the Earth

Mississippi Missionary Parents' Fellowship
April 16-17, 2010

Garaywa Camp and Conference Center

(Please register by Friday, April 9, 2010)

Register for meals, even if you do not require lodging. We need an accurate count for meal preparations.

For additional information, please call MS WMU at 800-748-1651, ext. 317; 601-292-3317; or e-mail Lmiller@mbcb.org; or http://www.mbcb.org/events_results.aspx?ID=16



HOUSE TOPS

BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE

When Immorality Comes to Church

I Corinthians 5:1-2, 9-13; 6:15-20

By Marion D. Duncan

Very much like the Corinthians Paul wrote to, we live in a society saturated with distorted beliefs and practices concerning sexuality. Sadly, many Christians are so desensitized to the pervasive sexual immorality in secular culture they are no longer shocked by it and allow sexual immorality in their own lives. God has only one standard for sexual purity—sex only in marriage between a husband and wife, and the church must uphold this standard.

Barclay describes the Corinthian Christians as "a little island of Christianity surrounded on every side by a sea of paganism; they had come so newly into Christianity; it was so difficult to unlearn the practices which generations of loose-living had made part of their lives;

and yet if the Church was to be kept pure they must say a final good-bye to the old heathen ways."

At the beginning of Corinthians 5, one of the brothers in the faith was involved in an immoral relationship even the pagans did not take part in, and they had allowed this to continue without judgment. The man's sin was grave and shocked Paul, but the attitude of complacency shown by the Corinthian Christians revolted him.

Paul instructed the church to take action to remove the man from the church. He probably believed that once the man had been removed from them, he would realize his sinful state and repent and return to their fellowship. The discipline was not only for the sake of the church, but also for the sake of the man himself. The church has a



Duncan

responsibility to uphold God's standards of morality.

Immorality crept into our lives as our culture gradually began accepting behavior that had formerly been considered unacceptable. My mother and her contemporaries were concerned

about what my friends and I would see in the movies or on the television screen. And, as they knew would happen, slowly questionable language and behavior were slipped subtly into movie scripts and TV programming drawing alarm from a larger general audience initially, but then, mainly Christian audiences. Sociologists explain that society gravitates toward new ideas and concepts, and if eventually embracing them, becomes more like the new part and less like the original.

In verses 9-13, Paul reiterated his message and warned that the people they should be wary of were not the worldly people outside the church, but actually people in their group who pro-

fessed to be believers and were living in sinful relationships.

Christians cannot and should not disassociate from all sinful people. But Paul was adamant that a church must never condone sexual immorality in its members and must maintain biblical moral standards by disciplining immoral members. Churches today rarely practice disciplining members because, we explain, we are all sinners and cannot pass judgment on one another—gravitation away from the original?

Disputes and lawsuits between believers spoke of the travesty of their defeat among their own ranks. And, instead of appointing judges from themselves, they had their day in court before ungodly judges. Paul reproved them for disobeying God's laws. They were not their own having been "washed, sanctified, and justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and the Spirit of our God." (6:11)

Paul explained freedom from Old Testament law meant he was allowed everything—but not everything was beneficial to him, and he would not be mastered

by anything. The Corinthians were saying that food was meant for the stomach and the stomach for food; in the same way, sex was meant for the body and the body for sex. "The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord; and the Lord for the body. God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also." (6:13) God made sex as the way whereby a husband and wife make a total commitment of themselves to each other in an atmosphere of responsible love. Sexual immorality is wrong because it perverts this purpose of God's intention for sex. (First Corinthians for Today, Robert J. Dean)

Paul wrote to the church at Corinth, not to individuals. Read these words and hear Paul's heart concerning the church. "Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you... You are not your own; you were bought with a price. Therefore, honor God with your body." (6:19-20)

Duncan is a member of First Church, Starkville.

EXPLORE THE BIBLE

Divine Purpose

Exodus 5:1-10:29

By Shelby Hazzard

People Who Worship the Lord - Exodus 5:1-3

Once the Lord helped Moses overcome the fear of being chosen to deliver Israel from the Egyptians, he and his brother Aaron met with the Israelite elders and shared the news of their deliverance. After the meeting in Egypt, they went to Pharaoh. God's command given through these Hebrew brothers was for Pharaoh to "let my people go, so that they may hold a festival to me in the desert." (NIV)

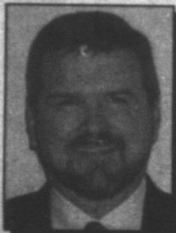
The Israelite captivity in this polytheistic, physically abusive culture was in its last hours. God's judgment would soon come and free them from the Egyptian empire to begin a new chapter as the chosen people of God, a testimony to His awesome saving work. Once deliv-

ered, they would be refined through God's discipline and grace to become true worshipers of God.

God's transformation of the Israelites is reflected in Christ's Church as He has called sinful humanity out of the polytheistic bondage of the world through belief, repentance and faith in Him. We have been transformed by the power of heaven into true believers, worshipping in Spirit and in truth.

People Who Belong to the Lord - Exodus 6:6-8

Moses and Aaron confronted Pharaoh and delivered the command of the Lord. Pharaoh responded with contempt. He not only refused to let them go, but demanded that they get back to work immediately, increasing the complexity of brick production by forcing them to supply their own straw



Hazzard

at the same rate. Pharaoh suspected that this 'command from the Lord' was just a ploy to help them escape labor because they were 'lazy.' This sent a ripple affect through the Israelite community that resulted in Moses and Aaron being blamed for the situation, calling their leadership to question.

What Pharaoh did not understand as a sun worshiper was that the Israelites belonged to Yahweh, based on a promise He had made to their forefathers and His promises could be trusted, indicative of His name, the great I AM, or as he told Moses, I AM WHO I AM. He is for all eternity past and present, the one true God and those that have been redeemed by saving faith in Jesus Christ belong to Him for all eternity, inseparable from Him.

The Israelites would learn quickly how serious God was about their relationship with Him. Just as His power would be displayed in their deliver-

ance, His power would be displayed in their discipline. Hebrews 12:7-8, 7 Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons. For what son is not disciplined by his father? 8 If you are not disciplined (and everyone undergoes discipline), then you are illegitimate children and not true sons. (NIV)

People Who Bear Witness of the Lord - Exodus 7:1-5

God helps us as witnesses according to our individual design. In the case of Moses' faltering lips, He made him 'like God' and assigned his brother as his prophet, so they were ready for the showdown with Pharaoh.

Moses and Aaron went toe to toe with Pharaoh and his court of magicians for weeks. The Lord afflicted Egypt with plagues to convince Pharaoh to release the people: blood, frogs, gnats, flies, livestock, boils, hail, locusts, darkness and the firstborn. In response, the bible teaches that Pharaoh's heart was either hardened by himself (8:15) or God (9:12), indicative of the mystery of the

paradox of the sinful will of man and the convicting power of God, as a theologian once said, "the same sun that melts wax hardens clay."

Here in this battle of the signs, we see the reality of our position with God as his redeemed witnesses. God is completely sovereign and has predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will (Eph 1:11), yet, how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? (Rom 10:14-15). The Lord commanded Moses and Aaron to bear a faithful witness for Him while He would determine the outcome. The Lord has done the same with us in Christ. He has told us to go to all nations and teach, baptize and do the work of an evangelist, while He takes care of the convicting, saving and building of His church, so let's continue to be faithful to spread the gospel!

Hazzard is minister of evangelism, First Church, Greenville.

Guidelines for submitting news and photographs

The Baptist Record is pleased to publish news and photographs of special events that take place in cooperating churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

News submitted for publication in The Baptist Record must be either (a) typewritten, (b) neatly printed on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper, or (c) neatly printed on standardized forms provided by the newspaper. All articles must be received in writing; no articles will be accepted over the telephone.

News may be submitted electronically to the address below, and must be contained in the message segment of an e-mail form. Due to increasing virus threats, no text attachments will be accepted. Photograph attachments are permissible.



Please make articles concise. Include the who, what, when, where details of the story, along with a contact person's address and telephone number.

Photographs may be color or black and white. Instant photos and digital printouts are not reproducible. Digital photos may be used if

submitted as a JPEG file via either (a) e-mail, (b) three-and-a-half inch floppy disk, or (c) CD. Photos must be clear, sharp, and well-lighted. Cell phone photographs and other low resolution items are generally not publishable. Photographs can not be returned. Please do not attach photos with tape or staples.

All news items are subject to editing, and all photographs are subject to cropping. Photographs must depict people. No landscape, building, or object-only photographs will be printed. News items and/or photographs can be published one time only. News items and/or photographs depicting benefits and activities for secular or outside organizations will not be published. Deadline for submitting news is one week prior to requested publication date.

Articles that are not date-sensitive will be published on a space-available basis.

Submit news and photographs to The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. FAX: (601) 292-3330. E-mail: baptistrecord@mbcb.org.

JUST FOR THE RECORD

1. Eureka Church, Lena, will host Spoken 4 Quartet in concert Mar. 13, 6:30 p.m. A love offering will be received.
2. Main Street Church, Hattiesburg, is honoring Bob Jones for 40 years of ministry Mar. 21, 3 p.m. For more information, call (601) 296-8000.
3. Highland Church, Laurel, ordained three men as deacon Jan. 31. Shown are transitional pastor Don H. Stewart, deacons Mike Hicks, Stephen Kneipp, and Rob Winpiger, and AMD Allan Nix.
4. Edna Church, Columbia, celebrated Len Cooke's 6th year anniversary as minister of music Feb. 14. Shown are Cooke and his wife Tracey.



3. Highland Church, Laurel



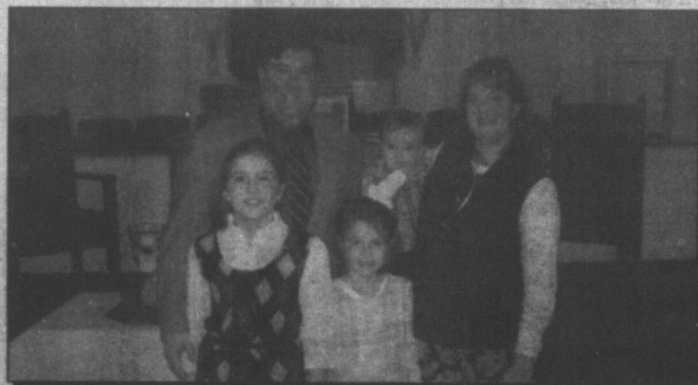
4. The Cookes

REVIVALS AND HOMECOMINGS

1. Main Street Church, Mendenhall: Revival, Mar. 21 - 24; Sun. morning service followed by fellowship meal; Mon. - Wed., 7 p.m.; Webb Armstrong, speaker; Roger Welch, music; Matt Armstrong, pastor.
2. Benton Church, Benton: Revival, Mar. 28 - 31; Sun., 10:30 a.m., followed by lunch, and 5 p.m.; Mon. - Wed., 7 p.m.; Gene Richardson, speaker; Jerry Talley, music; Charles Moore, pastor.
3. Southside Church, Vicksburg: Revival, Mar. 21 - 26; Sun., 10:50 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon. - Fri., 7 p.m.; Don Savell, speaker; Ronnie Lacaze, music.
4. Kreole Avenue Church, Moss Point: Revival, Mar. 14 - 17; Sun., 10:45 a.m. followed by lunch and 6 p.m.; Mon. - Wed., 7 p.m.; Scott McDowell, speaker and chalk artist.
5. Morgan City Church, Morgan City: Revival, Mar. 21 - 24; Sun., 11 a.m., followed by lunch and 6 p.m.; Mon. - Wed., 7 p.m.; Roy Clark, speaker; Matthew and Valerie Morgan, music.
6. Macedonia Church, Blue Mountain: Revival, Mar. 28 - 30; Sun., 6 p.m.; Mon. - Tue., 7 p.m.; Marvin Morrow, speaker; Terry Hall, pastor.

STAFF CHANGES

1. Roxie Church, Roxie, has called Ron Ball as pastor. Shown are Ball, his wife Lauren, and their children Jordan, Julia, and Ryne.
2. Richard Smith of Ripley is now available to help area churches in the field of music/worship leader, part-time or interim. Call (662) 587-9870 or email shadowdog@ripleycable.net.



1. The Balls

OBITUARY

Jerome McLendon, 71, Rockport, died Feb. 27 at St. Dominic Hospital, Jackson, after a short battle with lung cancer. McLendon pastored four churches during his 42 years of ministry, most recently Unity Church, Georgetown, where he served 13 years. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Wanda Little McLendon, Rockport; two daughters and sons-in-law, Kim and Johnny Jones, Florence and Jane and Keith Smith, Wesson; four granddaughters, two grandsons-in-law, three great-granddaughters and two great-grandsons; one sister, Judy McLendon, Rockport, and one brother, Tommy McLendon, Brandon.

COLLEGE NEWS

1. Mississippi College is presenting Shakespeare's The Comedy of Errors Mar. 26, 7 p.m. Tickets, \$7, general admission, and \$5 for students, college employees and senior adults. For more information and reservations, call (601) 925-3453.
2. Mississippi College is hosting its annual International Festival Mar. 26, 6 p.m., Swor Auditorium, with talent from China, India, and Kyrgyzstan. Free. For information on the festival, call (601) 925-7705.

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JUST FOR THE RECORD



6. Smithville Church, Smithville



7. First Church, Plantersville



8. Hebron Church, Bentonia



9. Jackson and White

1. Holcomb Church, Grenada County held a dedication service for their new sanctuary Jan. 10. Photographs of the church's past and present activities, the dedication service, special music and Bob Johnson's message are available on DVD. Call (662) 226-7440 or email Barbara.mckee@earthlink.net for more information.
2. First Church, Oxford is hosting REAP North Equipped for Missions Conference Apr. 27 - 29. The conference is for church leaders interested in becoming Strategy Coordinator church partners, those currently working as coordinators with REAP North, or any wanting general information about leading their churches to become more involved in missions. Cost, \$59. Conference begins at 5 p.m. and ends at noon. For more information or to register, contact Jeff or Liesa Holeman at reapnorthpe-r@gmail.com, or call (601) 914-6705. Deadline for registration is Apr. 2.
3. Cedar View Church, Olive Branch is hosting a community singing featuring Faith in Action Mar. 20, 6 p.m., preceded by a dinner at 5 p.m.
4. First Church, Terry recently exceeded its goal of \$12,250 for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering by giving a final total of \$12,495.29.
5. Glade Church, Laurel, will present Christ in the Passover, led by Jhan Moskowitz with Jews for Jesus Mar. 21, 10:30 a.m. For information, call (601) 649-4246.
6. The children of Smithville Church, Smithville, participated in Children's Ministry Day Feb. 20. Sixteen children and guests visited the Monroe County Rest Home, singing, playing games, taking lunch, and enjoying fellowship. The children made door placards and favors with Bible verses for the residents. Shown are the participants.
7. First Church, Plantersville, held a children's Valentine banquet Feb. 14. Shown with the children are Sissy Craft, pastor Danny Balint, and Karen Balint.
8. The GAs of Hebron Church, Bentonia, recently delivered treats to members of their community. The girls delivered Valentine cookies and led in prayer at each household they visited. Shown are the participants.
9. Chalybeate Church, Corinth, ordained Jay White to the ministry Feb. 14. Shown is Jim Jackson presenting White with his certificate of ordination.
10. The Golden Friends of Cedar Grove Church, Columbia, had a Valentine's banquet Feb. 13. Shown are the participants.



10. Cedar Grove Church, Columbia,

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